

sky 5 so decay Impairs (my body). Think of
me, before
that source of destruction (prevails);¹

YIII. (LXXII)

i, &e., as before.

xvii. !• Aoxi, holding, in his hands, many
good things
for men, appropriates the prayers
addressed to the
eternal creator.^{1*} AGNI is the lord of
riches, quickly
bestowing (on those who praise him)
all golden
(gifts)

2. All the immortals, and the
unbewildered

J wishing for him who was (dear) to*us
as a
and was everywhere around^
discovered him
not. Oppressed with fatigue₃ wandering
on foot, and
cognizant of his acts, -they stopped
at the last
beautiful ('hiding)-place of AGNI.

3. Inasmuch, AGNI, as the pure
(MAEUTS) wor-
shipped thee, (equally) pure, with
clarified butter,
for three years, therefore they
acquired names
worthy (to be repeated) at sacrifices,
and, being
regenerated, obtained celestial bodies.⁰

^a Which is tantamount to asking *Ayni* to
grant immortality,—
awriMwam prayaehcltheti ydvaf.

^b *I.e., SwdtmabMrnnkltam karoti*,—he
makes them present, or ap-
plicable, to himself. The creator is named
Tedhas,—usually a name
of *Brahsid*)—and is, here, associated with

sastcata-9 the eternal.
 This looks as if a first cause were
 recognized, distinct from *Agni*
 and the elemental deities, although, in a
 figurative sense, they are
 identified with it.

^c The next ^has only &«?/wiyff, the
 pure : the Scholiast snp-